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ORCHID STUDIES, IX

BY

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MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS

Habenaria graciliscapa *Rodrigues* Gen. & Sp. Orch. Nov. 1 (1877) 155—Cogniaux in Martius Fl. Bras. 3, pt. 4 (1893) 71, t. 14, fig. I—Kränzlin Orch. Gen. & Sp. 1 (1898) 294.

Habenaria graciliscapa is an interesting addition to the orchid flora of both Argentina and Uruguay from which countries it has been sent to me by *Dr. H. R. Descole* and *Dr. Bernardo Rosengurtt*.

The orchids of Argentina and Uruguay are not very great in number when contrasted with those of other areas in South America; seldom, however, does a collection from these countries come in for determination that does not contain some rare, noteworthy or new orchid. It is quite probable that this will continue to be true for many years.

ARGENTINA: quebrada de la mina, Fiambalá, Tinogasta, Catamarca, a 2000 metros altitud, 18 febrero 1930, Schreiter 6351.

URUGUAY: en arenas marítimas, Laguna Negra, Rocha, 20 marzo 1938, Rosengurtt B2611.

Bipinnula polysyka *Kränzlin* in Engl. Bot. Jahrb. 9 (1887) 317; Orch. Gen. & Sp. 2 (1903) 25, t. 1, fig. E

—Cogniaux in Martius Fl. Bras. 3, pt. 4 (1893) 110, t. 21, fig. III.

Dr. *Bernardo Rosengurtt* has sent to me a good specimen of this rare plant for determination and it calls to attention the differences from *Bipinnula Gibertii* Reichb.f. which I thought it was at first glance.

The chief character used by *Kräenzlin* to separate *Bipinnula polysyka* from *B. Gibertii* in his key, the dentate or papillose dorsal sepal, is slightly evident on only one of the plants available whereas on all of the others the dorsal sepal is entire. However, the two “species” may be separated by means of lip-characters, although a more complete series of specimens may show *B. polysyka* Kränzl. to be only a variety of *B. Gibertii* Reichb.f.

URUGUAY: dry sandy fields, Cerro, Departamento de Montevideo, November 1925, *Herter* 442b (79697) (in Gray Herbarium); Monzón-Heber, Juan Jackson, Departamento Soriano, noviembre 1937, *Gallinal, Aragone, Bergalli, Campal & Rosengurtt* 779; Palleros, Río Negro, Departamento Cerro Largo, diciembre 1937, *Gallinal et al* 1897.

Erythrodess dichopetala (*Kräenzl.*) *L. O. Williams*
comb. nov.

Physurus dichopetalus Kränzlin in *Kungl. Svenska Vet.-Akad. Handl.* 46 (1911) 41, t. 7, fig. 5.

I have seen the following specimen:

ARGENTINA: Posadas, Misiones, January 10, 1924, *Hauman* 24 / 476.

Malaxis Margaretae (*F. Brown*) *L. O. Williams*
comb. nov.

Microstylis Margaretae F. Brown in *B. P. Bishop Mus. Bull.* 84 (1931) 171, fig. 18, b.

AUSTRAL ISLANDS: *Stokes* 105.

Epidendrum Cogniauxii L. O. Williams nom. nov.

Epidendrum Christii Cogniaux in Urban Symb. Antill. 6 (1910) 695, non *Epidendrum Christi* Reichenbach filius, 1876.

It is with pleasure that this West Indian Epidendrum is renamed for Cogniaux who described it originally.

Grammatophyllum elegans Reichenbach filius in Gard. Chron. n.s. 18 (1882) 776—Schlechter in Orchis 9 (1915) 107.

The plant described from the “South Sea Islands” by *Reichenbach* as *Grammatophyllum elegans* seems not to have been rediscovered until recently. *Mr. A. Meebold* collected a specimen of *Grammatophyllum* in Fiji which seems to answer the description of the plant given by *Reichenbach*.

A supplementary description based on the specimen in hand may be of interest. The specimen has a single leaf and a single flower.

Leaf elliptic-oblong, acute, about 30 cm. long and 5.5 cm. broad. Sepals about 3 cm. long, 1.5–2 cm. broad. Petals about 3 cm. long and 1.5 cm. broad. Lip about 2 cm. long and 2 cm. broad, with a strongly 3-ribbed median callus extending from the base to the middle of the lip or beyond.

In my recent account of the orchids of Fiji *Grammatophyllum elegans* was completely overlooked.

FIJI: Suva, January 1937, *Meebold 21954* (in Herb. Bishop Museum, Honolulu).

Dendrobium strongylanthum Reichenbach filius in Gard. Chron. n.s. 9 (1878) 462—Hooker filius Fl. Brit. India 5 (1890) 716—Kränzlin in Engl. Pflanzenr. IV. 50. II. B. 21 (1910) 81.

This peculiar species of *Dendrobium*, which was de-

scribed by Reichenbach and indirectly said to be a native of India, is well represented by the two specimens cited below.

Schlechter has overlooked the species in his *Orch. Sino-Jap. Prodr.* although Kränzlin had cited a specimen from Yunnan, China (*Henry 12962*) in his monograph of *Dendrobium*.

CHINA: epiphyte, between Menglien and Yu Tang Po, between Tengyueh and Lungling, Yunnan Province, October 20, 1922, *Rock 7104*; epiphyte, camp at Ya Tau Pa between Tengyueh and Lungling, Yunnan Province, October 21, 1922, *Rock 7116*.

In addition to the two specimens cited above there is a horticultural specimen in the Ames Herbarium which was procured from Sander with whom it flowered in 1899. This plant is said to have been collected by *Micholitz* in Burma earlier the same year.

***Chroniochilus Godeffroyanus* (Reichb.f.) L.O. Williams** in *Bot. Mus. Leafl. Harv. Univ.* 5 (1938) 138, as *C. Godeffroyanum* by error.

Thrixspermum Godeffroyanum Reichenbach filius *Xen. Orch.* 2 (1867) 122; in *Seemann Fl. Vit.* (1868) 297, t. 90.

Sarcochilus Godeffroyanus *Bentham & Hooker filius ex Drake Ill. Fl. Ins. Pacif.* (1886) 310.

Chiloschista Godeffroyana *Schlechter Orch. Sino-Jap. Prodr.* (1919) 275.

A character in the flowers of *Chroniochilus Godefroyanus*, which seems previously to have escaped attention, was noticed while dissecting the flowers of a specimen collected in Fiji by Mr. E. H. Bryan, Jr. (*Bryan 458*). The anther is provided with a pair of lateral antennae (one antenna on either sac of the anther) which seem to be slightly glandular at the apex. The antennae are

about the same length as the column and appear to lie parallel to it, reaching the point of attachment of the perianth parts to the column. The function of the antennae is not known.

Sarcanthus nagarensis *Reichenbach filius* in Seemann Fl. Vit. (1868) 298—L. O. Williams in Bot. Mus. Leafl. Harv. Univ. 5 (1938) 140.

With some doubt that the genus *Sarcanthus* occurred in Polynesia it was included in my account of the orchids of Fiji with the thought that the species probably belonged to some other genus. Since that time Dr. C. Keissler has been kind enough to send to me a copy of Reichenbach's analytical sketches of the species as well as a drawing of the type and, in addition, I have seen a specimen of the species which was collected in Fiji by Mr. E. H. Bryan, Jr. These records and my specimen lead me to believe that the plant is a species of *Sarcanthus* and must be one of the largest species of the genus.

The following short amplification of Reichenbach's description, which was based on an inflorescence only, may be of use.

Large lianas, 3-4 meters tall (fide Bryan), the apical part of the stem up to 2 cm. in diameter. Leaves distichous, ligulate to lanceolate-ligulate, obtuse, up to 25 cm. long and 6 cm. broad, coriaceous, apex only slightly or not at all bilobed.

FIJI: Yathata, climbing over walls of ancient fortified town, summit of Na Koro Levu, liana 3-4 meters high, flower yellow-green and cream, at about 265 meters altitude, October 1, 1924, *Bryan 594*.